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Cholera.

Russia.—According to the latest official bulletin, cholera in the Caucasus shows a considerable abatement. In the Government district of Eriyan, during the week ended January 1, there were registered 38 cholera cases, with 33 deaths, as compared with 324 cases in the week ended December 24.

Turkey.—The total number of cases of cholera in Turkey during the year 1904 (up to December 26) amounted to 10,466, with 9,192 deaths.

Death rate of Berlin and other cities.

The death rate of Berlin for the week ended January 7 was higher than it has been for 3 months past, amounting, calculated on the year, to 16.4 per thousand of the population, this being only a little higher, however, than the rate for the first week of 1904, in which it amounted to 16.2 per thousand. Notwithstanding the increased mortality in Berlin, more than two-thirds of the large German towns and cities showed more unfavorable health conditions than this city. The following cities had considerably higher mortality figures than Berlin, viz: Hamburg, Munich, Düsseldorf, Halle, Königsberg, Rixdorf (with 20.3), Nuremberg, Cologne, Bremen, Brunswick, Dresden, Breslau, as well as London, Paris, and Vienna. On the other hand, the following cities had a lower death rate than Berlin, namely: Stuttgart, Carlsruhe, Hanover, Leipzig, Schöneberg (12.8). The mortality rate among infants amounted to 3.4 per year and thousand, less than half the Munich figure and also lower than the Hamburg rate. There were registered in Berlin, during the week above mentioned, 6 deaths from diphtheria, 95 deaths from phthisis pulmonalis, 122 deaths from other diseases of the respiratory organs, 5 deaths from scarlet fever, 3 deaths from measles, 2 deaths from enteric fever, 29 deaths from cancer. Finally, 17 persons died by violence.

GREAT BRITAIN.*Plague death at Liverpool on steamship from Rangoon.*

One death Liverpool from plague. Brought by steamer from Rangoon. Crew isolated and extension not feared.

BOYLE, *Consul.*

INDIA.*Reports from Bombay—Mortality—Cholera, plague, and smallpox—Inspection of vessels—Progress of plague.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Hume reports, December 31, 1904, and January 7 and 14, as follows:

Mortality of Bombay city for the week ended December 27, 1904.

	Week ended—	
	Dec. 27, 1904.	Dec. 29, 1903.
Plague attacks	^a 113	.....
Plague deaths	106	64
Plague mortality per 1,000.	6.97	4.28
Smallpox deaths	20	3
Cholera deaths	1	0
Total deaths	737	627
Total mortality per 1,000	49.38	42.01

^aOf the 113 plague cases, 3 were imported.

In spite of the fact that the mortality figures seem high, as compared with those of last year, still it will be seen from the following table for the corresponding week of the past few years that the figures are lower, considerably, than the average figures since 1896, when plague began.

The figures for the five years previous to 1896 show that the death rate then was half or less than half of what it has been since. I quote only the figures for the most important infectious diseases:

Deaths from principal diseases in Bombay city during the same week in each of 14 years—1891 to 1904.

Years.	Week ended.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Plague.	Relapsing fever.	Other fevers.	Total deaths.	Mortality per 1,000 per year.
1891.....	Dec. 29 .....	.....	4	10	.....	.....	133	477	30.18
1892.....	Dec. 27 .....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	105	420	26.57
1893.....	Dec. 26 .....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	88	447	28.28
1894.....	Dec. 25 .....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	113	442	27.96
1895.....	Dec. 24	1	3	3	.....	.....	103	458	28.98
1896.....	Dec. 29	1	2	10	390	.....	546	1,824	115.41
1897.....	Dec. 28	4	.....	7	200	.....	99	949	60.05
1898.....	Dec. 27	2	2	8	119	7	84	715	45.24
1899.....	Dec. 26	3	36	43	301	23	166	1,601	101.34
1900.....	Dec. 25	4	1	2	118	30	123	939	59.41
1901.....	Dec. 24 .....	.....	1	.....	175	20	86	823	55.14
1902.....	Dec. 30 .....	.....	6	31	158	3	49	741	49.65
1903.....	Dec. 29 .....	.....	3	2	64	5	38	627	42.01
1904.....	Dec. 27	1	20	1	106	1	47	737	49.38
Average, 5 years before plague.....	.....	.....	2	4	.....	.....	109	449	28.41
Average, 9 years since plague.....	.....	1.66	7.88	11.55	181.22	9.88	137.55	995.11	66.68

There can be no doubt that many cases of fever which are not put down as plague by attending physicians are really cases of plague, and the increased death rate since 1896 from other fevers than plague is partly due to this fact.

TRANSACTIONS OF SERVICE.

Bill of health No. 20 was issued on December 30, 1904, to the Norwegian steamship *Tiger*, which sailed on that date for Baltimore via Suez Canal. The sanitary condition of vessel and crew was excellent, while the cargo itself was manganese ore. Rat guards were used on all the cables leading to the vessel, and rat-traps were in use throughout the hold and decks. The only rats caught in the vicinity were found by the ship's cat on the wharf. The forecastle was thoroughly cleaned and washed down with bichloride and carbolic solutions. The crew were individually examined for evidences of plague.

Mortality of Bombay for the week ended January 3, 1905.

	Week ended—		Mean of same week in 5 years, 1900-1904.
	Jan. 3, 1905.	Jan. 5, 1904.	
Plague deaths.....	128	125	184
Plague mortality per 1,000.....	8.57	8.37	9.75
Smallpox deaths.....	35	3	18
Cholera deaths.....	0	0	1
Total deaths.....	799	728	996
Total mortality per 1,000.....	53.54	48.78	65.96
Births reported.....	449	317	298